(d) if so, the details thereof and the safety measures taken for CNG vehicles?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of mishaps in Delhi are as follows:

05.08.2001: Near Punjabi Bagh Flyover
20.09.2001: Minor fire in RTV at Sanjay Gandhi Transport Nagar
01.10.2001: Fire in bus at Karkardooma Court
10.10.2001: Fire in bus at Nehru Place
14.10.2001: Fire in CNG auto at Jahangeerpuri
11.11.2001: Fire in bus near Dhaula Kuan
19.12.2001: Fire in bus at G.T.K. DTC Depot
27.12.2001: Fire in MOP at Delhi Mathura Highway
07.01.2002: Fire in auto-rickshaw at Okhla Morh
21.02.2002: Fire in Tata Bus at Nanglamachi Station
22.03.2002: Fire in TELCO bus near Kakrola Morh, Papankala

(c) and (d) Informal inquiries have been carried out by Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL). Statutory inquiry is to be done by the State Government. The inquiries by IGL reveal fault in the rupture disk of vehicles and use of spurious cylinders to be one of the causes of fire incidents.

Decline in foreign tourist and foreign exchange earnings

3211. SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tourist traffic in India from all over the globe has decreased during the last six months;

(b) whether it is also a fact that foreign exchange earnings has also come down during this period;

(c) if so, the details of tourist arrivals to India and the foreign

exchange earnings from them during the above period; and

(d) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to boost the image of India in various parts of the World?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During the period October 2001—March 2002, tourist arrivals to India and foreign exchange earnings from tourism are estimated as 1322991 and Rs. 7277.5 crore respectively.

(d) Various steps taken by the Government to boost the image of India include the following:

- Organising promotions, seminars, film shows and workshops for various levels of staff in the travel industry and potential tourists for creating general awareness among the trade and consumer about the India tourism product, its rich cultural and spiritual heritage and project that India is a safe destination;
- Organising joint destination promotions with various airlines flying to India including Air India;
- Participation in travel shows, travel marts and reinforcing the message that India is a safe and secure destination;
- Formulation and implementation of aggressive advertising and publicity campaigns responsive to specific market needs;
- Production of destination films and other promotional materials, including audio visuals, television presentation programmes, posters, brouchures, folders, leaflets, etc; and
- Utilising Indian missions abroad in tourism promotion.
- The 51st conference of Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) was organised in New Delhi in which, among others, the richness of Indian art and culture was showcased.